



## *Proclamation* *Presented*

# In Recognition of Don Gordon

**WHEREAS**, Don Gordon was born in Maine in 1938 and was a graduate of Deering High School in 1957; and

**WHEREAS**, Don Gordon was a true "gentleman of jazz" and made enormous contributions to the beloved quintessential American art-form jazz; serving as an emcee for one of the largest and most influential jazz festivals in the country, "The Riviera's Jazz On The Strip" in Las Vegas, Nevada for 7 1/2 years; and

**WHEREAS**, from 2002 to 2013, Don Gordon shared his passion and expertise with the people of our State by hosting "Jazz with Don Gordon" Monday through Thursday and "Don's Picks" every Friday on Hawai'i Public Radio; both shows having a profound impact on the local jazz scene; and

**WHEREAS**, Don Gordon lived the beats and rhythms he heard so well in the music he loved; he truly believed that, as Duke Ellington once said, "Music is everything. Nature is music (cicadas in the tropical night). The sea is music, the wind is music. The rain drumming on the roof and the storm raging in the sky are music. Music is the oldest entity. The scope of music is immense and infinite. It is the 'esperanto' of the world;" and

**WHEREAS**, since his death on July 21, 2013, friends, colleagues and fans have been pouring out their *aloha* and sharing stories of Don Gordon; his life being honored and celebrated at his funeral service on August 11, 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, Don Gordon is survived by daughters Pamela Sue Pearce and Jill Ferris;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor** for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 11, 2013, as

## "DON GORDON DAY"

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in celebrating the life Don Gordon who stayed for as many choruses as he could and was swinging right to end, always knowing that "it don't mean a thing if ain't got that swing."

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this seventh day of August 2013.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i